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C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 002814

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/12/2015

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PL](#) [UNSC](#)

SUBJECT: G-4 RESOLUTION ON UN REFORM: POLAND CAN'T SAY "NO"
TO GERMANY

REF: STATE 126870

Classified By: Mary Curtin, Charge d'Affaires, reasons 1.4b,d

[1](#)1. (C) The Polish government has decided to co-sponsor the Group of Four (G-4) framework resolution based on its long-standing commitment, dating back to the early 1990's, to support Germany's bid for a permanent seat on the Security Council. Reviewing the Polish position, MFA Deputy Director for UN Affairs Tomasz Chlon explained that Polish officials share many of the concerns raised by us and other governments (Chlon remarked that he found our points "surprisingly positive" and "thoughtful" on the subject of UNSC expansion), but that the Polish government feels it must honor its promise to the Germans. "We simply cannot say 'no' to Germany on this issue," he declared.

[1](#)2. (C) We cautioned Chlon against equating opposition to the G-4 resolution with opposition to Security Council expansion. At issue is a resolution that clearly does not enjoy the support of many key states and that would expand the UNSC based exclusively on geographic criteria. It is essential, we underscored, that divisive debate over Security Council reform not delay other, more urgent reforms.

[1](#)3. (C) Chlon repeated that the Polish government finds "much merit" in these arguments, and allowed that, in any case, such institutional reform is less of a priority for the Poles than "conceptual reform" (e.g., ensuring that the UN's mission is defined to address real challenges and that UN develop closer cooperation with regional organizations such as NATO and the EU). However, he emphasized, the Poles feel duty-bound to support the Germans on this initiative, concerns about many of the resolution's provisions notwithstanding.
CURTIN